

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 07360 270808Z

13

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /124 W

----- 094777

R 270626Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6384

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CDR JCRC NKP

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 7360

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, LA

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH LPF REP SOTH PHETRASY

ON LEAGUE OF FAMILIES CLAIM THAT SOME

U.S. POW'S MAY REMAIN IN LAOS

REF: A. VIENTIANE 7187 B. VIENTIANE 7231

1. DURING OCTOBER 26 OFFICE CALL ON SOTH PHETRASY, CHIEF OF LPF DELEGATION TO JOINT COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENT (JCIA), EMBOFF REQUESTED CLARIFICATION OF REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO SOTH BY DELEGATION FROM LEAGUE OF FAMILIES WHICH CALLED ON HIM OCTOBER 19, TO EFFECT THAT SOME AMERICAN POW'S MIGHT REMAIN ALIVE IN LAOS.

2. SOTH CATEGORICALLY DENIED THAT HE HAD INDICATED TO LEAGUE OF FAMILIES DELEGATION THAT SOME MISSING AMERICANS MIGHT BE ALIVE IN REMOTE AREAS WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF LPF LEADERSHIP. HE SAID THE ONLY REMAINING PRISONER WAS EMMET KAY, WHO WAS IN GOOD HEALTH IN SAM NEUA AND RECEIVING PACKAGES AND MAIL TRANSMITTED BY LPF FROM HIS WIFE. SOTH SAID THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 07360 270808Z

"SPECIAL BUREAU" IN LPF HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TASK OF

COMMUNICATING WITH "ALL VILLAGES IN LIBERATED ZONE"
ON SUBJECT OF AMERICAN PRISONERS. "IF ANY AMERICAN
PILOTS WERE ALIVE IN THE JUNGLE," HE SAID, "THEY COULD
NOT HAVE SURVIVED WITHOUT MAKING CONTACT WITH THE
POPULATION." NO REPORTS WERE RECEIVED BY LPF THAT
ANY SUCH CONTACTS WERE MADE.

3. THIS MORNING, WE CHECKED WITH REVEREND ROFFE, WHO
HAD SERVED AS INTERPRETER FOR LEAGUE DELEGATION VISIT.
HE CONFIRMED THAT SOTH HAD UNEQUIVOCALLY STATED THAT
EMMET KAY WAS THE ONLY AMERICAN PRISONER IN LAOS.

4. SOTH'S REMARKS TO EMOFF ARE IN LINE WITH POSITION
LPF HAS CONSISTENTLY TAKEN WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS IN
THE PAST. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT DELEGATION FROM LEAGUE
WHICH CALLED ON SOTH MAY HAVE MISINTERPRETED HIS
COMMENTS AS TRANSLATED, AND COME AWAY WITH IMPRESSION
THAT HE HAD HELD OUT SOME SLIM HOPE THAT SOME
SURVIVORS MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE. IN THIS CONNECTION,
DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO MAKE FOREGOING INFORMATION
AVAILABLE TO COLONEL SCOTT ALLBRIGHT.

5. OTHER ASPECTS OF CONVERSATION WITH SOTH REPORTED
SEPTEL.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENTI07360
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS WHITEHOUSE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973107/aaaaaerk.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION DPW
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. VIENTIANE 7187 B. VIENTIANE 7231
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Nov-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH LPF REP SOTH PHETRASY ON LEAGUE OF FAMILIES CLAIM THAT SOME
TAGS: MOPS, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005